**Research Questions**

Asking questions helps you find out information you need to know. It’s always a good idea to read a little bit about your topic before trying to come up with questions. You need to be able to identify good questions that will help you get to the most useful information to write your report. There are certain words that will help you start your questions. They are:

* Who
* What
* When
* Where
* Why
* How

There are two types of questions. The first is the **simple question**. Simple questions can be answered with:

* yes or no
* very short answers
* facts only

***Examples of simple questions:***

* When was Matilda Cook born?
* What was her favorite color?
* Where did she live?

**Research questions** can be answered with more complex answers:

* detailed information
* interesting ideas
* pointers to other questions and information

***Examples of research questions:***

* Why did Matilda Cook ask Eliza not to “bleed” the twins and Nell after they developed yellow fever?
* How did people develop yellow fever?
* What did Matilda Cook learn by reopening the coffeehouse?

**Reflection**

Do I have enough information?

1. Locate sources
2. Read and evaluate the information in the sources
3. Add the source to your bibliography in Noodle Tools
4. Take notes using the note cards in Noodle Tools

**Reflection**

Are the resources adequate?

1. Open Noodle Tools and create a new project.
2. Use the MLA Starter Format
3. Your description should reflect what your project is about
4. Fill in your thesis statement
5. Develop your research questions
6. Determine the keywords to use in your search
7. Identify resources to be used (database, book, website)

**Reflection**

Is my topic /thesis a good one?

**Preliminary Research**

1. Do some background reading
2. Broaden or narrow your topic
3. Develop your thesis statement